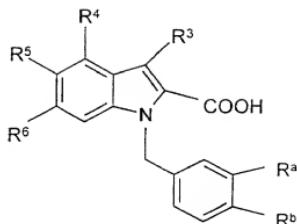


Table 1



5

Compd No.	R ³	R ⁴	R ⁵	R ⁶	R ^a	R ^b
1	H	<p>2-(2-methyl-5-(4-(R^b)-phenyl)-3-thienyl)sulfonamide</p>	H	H	H	H
2	H	<p>2-(2-(dimethylamino)-4-oxo-4-(methylmorpholin-4-yl)butyl)acetamide</p>	H	H	Cl	Cl
3	H	<p>2-(2-(dimethylamino)-4-oxo-4-(methylpiperazin-1-yl)butyl)acetamide</p>	H	H	Cl	Cl
4	H	<p>2-(2-(dimethylamino)-4-oxo-4-(4-(R^b)-phenyl)sulfonylbutyl)acetamide</p>	H	H	Cl	Cl
5	H	<p>2-(2-(dimethylamino)-4-oxo-4-(2-(R^b)-thienyl)sulfonylbutyl)acetamide</p>	H	H	Cl	Cl

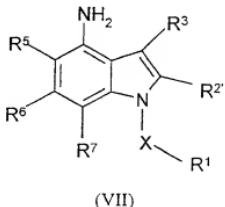
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6	H		H	H	Cl	Cl
7	H		H	H	Cl	Cl
8	H	NHC(O)CH ₂ NHCH ₂ COOH	H	H	Cl	Cl
9	H		H	H	Cl	Cl
10	H	OC(O)N(CH ₃) ₂	H	H	Cl	Cl
11	H		H	H	Cl	Cl
12	H		H	H	Cl	Cl
13	H		H	H	Cl	Cl
14	H	NHC(O)CH ₂ N(CH ₃)CH ₂ COOH	H	H	Cl	Cl
15	H		H	H	Cl	Cl

where * indicates the point of attachment of the group to the indole ring.

Compounds of formula (I) are suitably prepared by methods such as those described in International Patent Application Nos. PCT/GB98/02340 and PCT/GB98/02341.

In particular compounds of formula (I) where R⁴ is NHCOR¹⁵ or NHSO₂R¹⁵ can be prepared by reacting a compound of formula (VII)



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where X, R¹, R³, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ are as defined in relation to formula (I), R² is a group R² as defined in relation to formula (I) or a protected form thereof, with a compound of formula (VIII)

10



where Z is a leaving group and R²² is a group COR^{15'} or SO₂R^{15'} where R^{15'} is group R¹⁵ as defined in relation to formula (I) or a precursor thereof;

15 and thereafter if desired or necessary:

- (i) converting a precursor group R^{15'} to a group R¹⁵ and/or converting a group R¹⁵ to a different such group;
- (ii) deprotecting a group R^{2'} to a group R².

Suitable leaving groups Z include halo such as chloro.

20 The reaction is suitably effected in an organic solvent such as dichloromethane or tetrahydrofuran in the presence of a base such as triethylamine or pyridine. Moderate temperatures, for example from 0° to 50°C and conveniently ambient temperature, are employed in the reaction.

Compounds of formula (I) where R⁴ is a group OCONR¹⁶R¹⁷ may be prepared by a

25 broadly similar method by reacting a compound of formula (VIIA)